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“On Wings of Hope”



Synopsis

A critically wounded young boy is cut off from lifesaving help, by severe weather and terrain and the crew of Pactec plans a medevac flight to save his life.

Extended Synopsis

A young boy is badly injured, when he is hit by a motor cycle, that fractures his head and leaves him unconscious. Cut off from the only doctor that can help him, by snowed in mountain passes, his family arranges for an airlift to Kabul. The crew of Pactec, the only humanitarian flight service in Afghanistan, prepares a small plane that can land on the snow packed runway to medevac the boy.

Pascal Depuhl's documentary follows the pilots and support staff of Pactec, as they serve the people of Afghanistan by providing air support and communication service for over 200 NGO's, who in turn are enabled to serve the afghan people by the technology that Pactec provides.

Featuring interviews with aidworkers, Pactec's pilots, crew and their afghan staff, the short film gives a glimpse of how these men and their families directly and indirectly impact afghan society and the documentary also shows a beautiful side of the country, which is rarely seen.



Production stills

Download additional images at: [Photography by Depuhl/On Wings of Hope](#)
(all images © 2012 All rights reserved Photography by Depuhl - please credit usage to:
Photography by Depuhl and link image to <http://www.depuhl.com>)

Filmmaker's personal statement

One thing I have learned in life: the steepest climbs have the best views. In the summer of 2011 I couldn't shake an idea, that kept popping back into my mind persistently. I had started filming motion about 6 months earlier, but I felt that I was not using the ability to visually communicate an idea in the scope, that I should be. As a still photographer I love hearing my clients say "That image is exactly what I saw in my mind." However I was finding excuses not to try something more daring with my motion pictures. I emailed a friend of mine: "*I've got this crazy idea*" asking about the possibility of filming a documentary film in Afghanistan for the NGO he worked for. At this point I had no idea how to make a documentary, how this project would be funded, if it were safe, feasible, needed, ...

Most people, whom I told about this project, thought that I was out of my mind to even attempt to travel into central Asia. 'Why?' was the question, that I heard over and over



again. However a few of my adventurous friends saw, what I saw and encouraged me to go out on a limb and produce this motion project.

After 6 months of planning, preproduction and careful preparation, I began with nothing, but the story of the medevac as a

framework for the film. Hamid, a 5 year old afghan boy, had been injured, 2 months before I traveled and we were planning to film the return flight to Lal, a small mountain village 500 miles from Kabul, with his family. Beyond that, everything was open.

Filming in Afghanistan dictated that this project would be shot with the smallest possible footprint, a crew of one. The movie is shot exclusively with HDDSLR and GoPro cameras, the former being able to capture the beauty of the unspoiled country and the later giving us point of views, that are not possible with bigger or heavier cameras.

Visually you constantly question, if what you have is really good footage or just you being biased and in love with what you've shot. Those fears were put to rest, when National Geographic and the BBC bought parts of the footage, to add into nature and social documentaries, which they filmed, later that same year.

Postproduction turned out to be more work than originally anticipated. A lot more work. Logging footage and interviews, and putting together a rough story took many more weeks than expected and this being my first documentary, my first film that tells a story without storyboard or script, my first edit, my first ... I am grateful for a few close friends that lend me their experience early on in the movies life as they helped me craft the story and hone the edit into the shape that it is today.

Cast & crew bios

Crew

Pascal Depuhl filmed 'On Wings of Hope' in Afghanistan in early 2012. He is a still commercial photographer, who began filming 2 years ago. "On Wings of Hope" is his first documentary. Pascal was raised in Germany and lives in Miami, with his wife Jacomina and their two daughters Raphaelle and Gabrielle.



Cast (in order of appearance)

Hanelore	Aidworker	International Assistance Mission
Iwan	Pilot	Pactec
Daniel	Pilot	Pactec
Larry	Maintanance Manager	Pactec
Mark	Pilot	Pactec
Jim	Doctor	Global Partners
Sharif	Engineer	MedAir
Vince	Teamleader	EU Agricultural Mission
Sudatjhin	Aidworker	TF Fund
Adam	Linguist	International Assistance Mission
Laurence	Head of ECHO	European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
Richard	Program Director	Pactec
Ahmadullah	Satellite Technician	Pactec
Baquibullah	Financial Director	Pactec
Hamid	Afghan boy	

(last names are purposefully omitted due to security regulations from some NGOs)

Premiere Events

Movie Premiere - networking event

This plane usually lives in Afghanistan, but for the world premiere of “On Wings of Hope” it will be standing next to the screen in a 20,000 sqft hangar in Fort Lauderdale, where you can see the same plane that is featured in the movie.

Pascal Depuhl, the Miami based film-maker, will introduce the project and tell the story of how this documentary came to life right before “On Wings of Hope” will be screened.

And if that’s not good enough Daniel, the Pactec pilot, who tells the story in the documentary film, will explain a little more about what the humanitarian organization that he flies for does, immediately following the film.

We’ll close the official program by having a Q&A session with the audience, before they take some time to enjoy finger foods and network with other creative professionals.



“Moving into Motion” seminar

Many photographers don’t know where to start, as they consider how to get into shooting motion. It seems so overwhelming to look at everything that goes into producing a video for a client.

And many don’t even see the need for considering motion work as a service they should offer their existing clients. This seminar will begin by looking at why a still photographer should consider motion, by exploring what our clients customers expect to see.

The lion share of the seminar will explore how to actually record video on your current equipment, by going over how to set up a Canon 5D MkII camera to be a video camera, what settings to pick (and why) and what add on equipment is helpful in creating better motion work. We’ll spend some time looking at how to set up sound for an HDDSLR shoot and how to build a rig around your camera that creates professional looking video. Finally this seminar will cover how to move your motion camera to create a unique feel in your films.

Finally we’ll then screen the short documentary “On Wings of Hope”, that I filmed six months after I began offering my clients motion as part of my business. This event is sponsored by several companies, that make the equipment, which was used in creating this documentary. They will have gear on hand enabeling participants can get a feel for what is available for a DSLR filmmaker.

[More information, including online registration, for our “Move 2 Motion” seminar.](#)

Contact Details







Social Media Links

	On Wings of Hope Film	Pascal Depuhl / Filmmaker
	www.OnWingsOfHopeFilm.com	http://movies.depuhl.com
	www.facebook.com/onwingsofhopefilm	www.facebook.com/moving.photo
	https://plus.google.com/b/108138956234956987286/108138956234956987286/	https://plus.google.com/105700397163754078260
	#OnWingsFilm	@moviesbydepuhl
	http://blog.depuhl.com/WingsOfHope	http://blog.depuhl.com
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Address, Phone, Email



Photo of Pascal Depuhl

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